

## **REMARKS**

Claims 29, 30, 33-49 and 52-72 are currently pending. Claims 29, 30, 33, 34, 46, 49, 52, and 56 have been amended. No new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment. Claims 59-67 and 70 – 72 have been cancelled without prejudice.

### **Claim Objections**

Claims 29, 30, 33, 34, 52, and 56 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 59, 63, 64, 65, 66, and 67 have been cancelled. Claims 35-45, 47, 48, 53-55, 58, 68, and 69 are based on claims that have been amended to overcome objections. Accordingly, Applicants request the withdrawal of these objections and allowance of the claims.

### **35 U.S.C. §112**

Claims 46 and 49 have been amended to overcome the rejections in accordance with the Examiner's thoughtful comments. Claim 60 has been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims.

### **35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 70-72 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) over Vasselli et al. (Cardiovasc. Res. 1997: 35: 459) in view of Soares et al (J Immunol 1998:161:4572-82). Applicants have cancelled claims 70-72 without prejudice to expedite prosecution. Accordingly, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims.

It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. Although it is not believed that any fee is needed to consider this submission, the USPTO is authorized to charge our deposit account no. **04-1105** should such fee be deemed necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

/Stephana E. Patton/

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By: \_\_\_\_\_

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